

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The undersigned gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the telephone interview of October 10, 2007. The undersigned agrees with the summary of the interview provided by the examiner on PTOL-413 which was attached to the final office action. No agreement was reached.

Claims 63-73 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being obvious over Dolan in view of Schaedel. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants reiterate that Dolan discloses an anodizing method for light metals whereby solutions of different compositions may be used (embodiments A to G, cols. 4-9). In the list of substance classes of col. 2, middle, a), b) and i) are respectively phosphorus oxysalts, silicon oxysalts and alkali metal hydroxides. Surfactants, alcohols nor alkaline hydrolyzed silanes are not mentioned. It is noted that the Examiner alleges that Dolan discloses all of the components except for a surfactant, and cites Schaedel for disclosing this feature. However, the generation of foam on top of an anodizing solution is a concern as it may cause short-circuiting during an anodizing process, even perhaps if the electrode is partially insulated.

That is why it is preferably if the surfactant added to the solution of the present application should not create foam because it is intended to work with a bath where the articles to be coated are dipped into it, and any foam would disturb this operation as the foam may negatively influence the electrical system. The foam may cause discharges and short circuits which negatively influence the quality of the coating to be generated and which may even destroy the equipment used in the process.

In view of the foregoing, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 63-73 were rejected on the ground of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,875,334 in view of Kinase. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants reiterate that triethanolamine is not an accelerator for generating the phosphate containing coating like hydroxylamine. Triethanolamine may be one of the alcohols which is used in the present application for the stabilization of the gel for the polymeric layer. Hydroxylamine would not work as a stabilizer in the solution of the process of the present application. Thus, the Examiner has not considered the use of the respective components, and it would not be obvious to substitute one for the other.

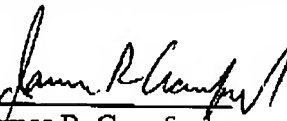
Furthermore, NH_2OH is not an alcohol; it is an inorganic compound, whereas an alcohol is an organic compound (i.e., it contains a carbon atom).

Thus, the obviousness-type double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, allowance is respectfully requested.

Any necessary fees may be charged to deposit account no. 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted
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